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SCOTT C. BONE, Editor.
Ernest H. Menick, Treasurer and Business Manager
Charles C. Archibald, Advertising Manager
J. H. Cunningham, Auditor
Charles C. Thompson, Mechanical Superintendent
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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1907.
Congressional Expenditures.
While Senator Tillman's resolution asking for information as to the employment of special agents, attorneys, and so on by the executive departments may uncover some new instances of "Executive usurpation," as it was doubtless intended to do, it should not be surprised if it would disclose the responsibility of Congress for practically all the special employes now on the pay roll of the government. Within the past few years the practice has grown up, against the protest of such careful legislators as Mr. Tamm, of appropriating money in lump sums to be used at the discretion of executive departments. A notable case in point was the grant to the Department of Justice of half a million dollars for the enforcement of the Sherman antitrust law, and we have no doubt a number of such cases could be gathered from recent appropriation bills. This practice of making general, instead of specific, appropriations is believed by many able lawyers to be unconstitutional, as it is unquestionably unwise and extravagant. Daniel Webster discussed this point many years ago in a speech made in the Senate opposing a bill of \$2,000,000 to be used at the discretion of the Executive for purposes of national defense. Mr. Webster said:
"The Constitution declares that no money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law. What is meant by 'appropriations' here? Does this language not mean that particular sums shall be assigned, by law, to particular objects? How far this pointing out and fixing the particular objects shall be carried is a question that cannot be settled by any precise rule. But 'specific appropriation,' that is to say, the designation of every object which is to be paid for, as far as such designation is practicable, has been thought to be a most important republican principle."
Webster opposed the appropriation of \$2,000,000 to be expended by the Executive at his choice for the national defense, but half a century later Congress gave President McKinley \$500,000 to be expended in the same way and for the same purpose, and there was not a dissenting voice. Since 1898 the Executive discretion has been given more and more latitude in the expenditure of funds for a variety of purposes, a complaint Congress consenting, until it is now discovered, by the keen scent of hunters for "Executive usurpation," that appropriations to be expended at the Executive's discretion are liable to abuse, and that it is time to act in the language of Senator Culberson, whether this is a personal government or one of law. Should it be found that expenditures are made in any department of the government in contravention of the constitutional provision that no money shall be drawn from the Treasury without warrant of law, Congress will have trouble in applying the remedy. A beginning in this direction has already been made by forbidding expenditures in excess of appropriations, thereby creating deficits which Congress is expected to make up.
Some one, not long ago, suggested that a moribund set of House committees whose nominal duty it is to supervise expenditures be reconstituted and required to perform their proper function, and so keep a watchful eye upon the use made of the money annually appropriated by Congress. There is merit in the suggestion, which was a wholesome recognition of the responsibility of Congress as the guardian of the public purse. The revenues and expenditures of the government being wholly within the control of Congress, as every one knows, it must, in the last analysis, be considered the fault of that body if the public funds are improperly expended.
Money talks, of course, but it is a speaking in politics these days.
To Be Sure We Should Tax Bachelors.
From the regulation of railroad rates, the exclusion of the Japanese, and the agitation for a uniform divorce law we turn to the no less important subject of placing a tax upon bachelors. The idea is not original with us. It is uttered like a clarion peal by the unmarried women of Wakefield, Mass., whose schedule of taxability, so to speak, begins with the sum of \$5 for men from twenty to twenty-five years, and ascends until \$20 is reached. The limit of forty years is placed upon the lives of all bachelors. After that age, "chloroform in large doses."
First of all, let us place ourselves on record as favoring this tax. A bachelor has no excuse for being. He must be set down at once as a selfish thing, who wants to enjoy life without any of its responsibilities. Their state of bachelorhood is really an evasion, and they ought to be made to pay heavily to the community which allows them to exist. The only fault to be found with the schedule of Wakefield women is that it is entirely too low. If the pleasure of being a bachelor is so intense that even the charms of the fair maidens of Wakefield are ignored, then certainly the sum of \$5 is a mere bagatelle. It ought to be \$50 at least; and if the amounts collected are converted into bank accounts for young people getting married, two birds will have been killed with one stone. As a matter of fact, why should not the taxation of bachelors be made an inducement to matrimony? It would be visiting upon the

heads of callous men the punishment which would hit their crime.
The situation in Wakefield excites our earnest consideration because it is so analogous to Washington. The list of eligible bachelors in the National Capital is already entirely too long. It includes—why embarrass the gallant young officers of the army and navy, the handsome and attractive statesmen, the corps of able government officials, whose names might easily be given. Scores of pretty debutantes and as many scores of belles of several seasons know them. Matrons with marriageable daughters have them placed and listed. We refrain from publicizing them only because we only because we think that long they will see the error of their way. If they do not, then Heaven help them, for no one else will accord them the slightest consideration! They must get married or they must pay the penalty for selfish indifference. This is the ultimatum in Wakefield, and unless our own bachelors speedily reform, it will be the stern reality in the National Capital.
There is at least one happy circumstance in connection with the Thaw case. Maxim Gorky isn't reporting it.

The Expert Witness.
Of all things fearfully and wonderfully made, so far as mental equipment is concerned, there is nothing that can quite equal the "expert" witness, so-called. No one in all this world can split hairs so fine and draw inferences and conclusions so grotesque.
There is the handwriting expert, the medical expert, the insanity expert, each and all crammed to the brim with awesome and overshadowing knowledge. The populace sits aghast while one of these witnesses testifies. The ordinary layman dare not dispute lest he make himself ridiculous. Other experts hesitate to disagree for fear of giving the whole snafu away.
The first announced defense of Harry Thaw, "emotional insanity," necessarily called for an imposing array of "experts." These experts cost a pretty penny. The State must pay them, and well, at that. They came to the Thaw trial covered with the glory of past conquests, and were supposed to be literally slopping over with mysterious information and unnatural lore akin to the magicians. They were to prove Harry Thaw insane by methods peculiar to their craft.
A sorry spectacle they have made of themselves. They have delivered a blow to the whole art of expert testimony. It cannot soon recover. Especially has expert Wiley, of Pittsburgh, done untold harm to the profession. In the hands of Jerome he was a child. He backed and filled, and contradicted himself. He flitted from theory to theory about as gracefully as an elephant, and the result was the entire courtroom was soon laughing at him. Finally he wound it all up in one glorious burst when he said, "I am a nervous specialist."
Fortunately for Thaw's peace of mind, he has managed to get away, rather cleverly, too, from the first plea, and now the case will undoubtedly turn largely upon the act which deprived Stanford White of his life. If nothing else good comes of the Thaw trial, this shock to the pretensions of the average "expert" will be something for which we may well be thankful.

Chicago indicates a willingness to stand for "Salome." But will "Salome" stand for Chicago?
Senator Tillman has lately recalled the famous political deal by which the Wilson-Gorman tariff bill was remodeled so as to afford protection to the sugar trust and Louisiana sugar planters. His recollection of the bargain was that the "sugar refinery" was ready to contribute to the campaign fund, if it could be understood that the industry would be fostered and not destroyed by the Democratic tariff policy. Both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Gorman were parties to this bargain, according to Mr. Tillman's recollection, but when it was sought to carry out the legislative end of it, Mr. Cleveland denounced the bill as perfidious and dishonorable. That Mr. Gorman adhered to his agreement with the sugar trust and Mr. Cleveland repudiated it is considered by the Maryland Senator's eulogists as a vindication of his character and a reflection upon the integrity of Mr. Cleveland. "Honorable man that he was," Mr. Tillman moralizes, "Senator Gorman redeemed every pledge made by the party leaders in New York"—that is to say, having agreed to deliver legislation for a money consideration paid into the party war chest, he kept his promise.
To pass moral judgment on the participants in this political deal is not our present purpose. It is here set forth as a striking illustration of the difficulty of revising the tariff upon any consistent principle save that of subserving favored interests. The Democratic party for many years made the tariff the main issue of its campaigns, yet when the actual opportunity of revising the tariff fell into its hands it was found to have been sold out to the protected interests, precisely as the Republican party had sold out to the same interests. Since that time protection sentiment has gained strength in the very region whence comes the bulk of Democratic representation in Congress. Southern industries affected by the tariff have multiplied mightily, and the interests of the South are no longer bound up with belief in freedom of trade. The only tariff bill now pending in Congress is a piece of legislation, rightly or wrongly, it is believed that its passage would adversely affect sugar and tobacco interests, both of large importance to the South. The rice-growers of Texas, to quote another example of protection sentiment in that quarter, are opposed to any concessions to Philippine rice, and insist upon the retention of the duty on that staple. To what extent would the Democratic party go toward removing any protective feature of the tariff? Shall it be returned to power? Does anybody really believe it would or could go very far?

The most effective work for revision of the tariff is carried on by interests which would gain by a reduction of duties on certain materials used in manufactures. These interests are of precisely the same order as those which insist on standing pat; that is, they are governed by selfish motives. Thus the tariff schedules will continue to be the battle ground of conflicting interests, and the actual tariff legislation a result of compromises, if not of mercenary political bargains, like the sugar schedule of the Wilson-Gorman tariff bill. Reopening this conflict of interests is the great bugaboo of the tariff question. No one can predict what will come out of it after it begins. Hence the strong pressure, from every quarter, against every proposal to disturb the tariff status quo. "Let well enough alone" is a political doctrine of which it is very difficult to disabuse the mind of the average man.
These considerations convey an impressive warning of the danger lurking in

government assistance to private enterprise. Once entered upon, it is difficult to throw off, and the immense financial interests involved in legislation affecting tariff constitute a strong and overpowering temptation to self-seeking politicians, while the great body of the people remain indifferent so long as their obvious and immediate concerns are apparently unaffected and the country as a whole enjoys what is known as "prosperity." For this reason we find that, after years of tariff agitation, it is to-day a settled question whether any party will seriously take up the tariff as a campaign issue.
To overthrow the evils of our tariff system seems a task too gigantic for the reforming statesmen of either of the great political organizations.

Senator Knox, it seems, is to receive a copy of every popular price magazine published in America for the next year. Why should he be so severely dealt with?
As to Woman Suffrage.
By a decisive vote the Oklahoma constitutional convention has refused to guarantee the right of suffrage to women. When we look around for the effects of woman suffrage upon the politics and government of the country, we are inclined heartily to indorse the action of the Oklahomans. In four States of the Union women vote on an equality with men. These States are Colorado, Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming. In several other States women have limited suffrage. In a great many communities they are privileged to vote on school questions, and in others property-holding women are allowed to vote on propositions involving the exercise of the taxing power. There is no evidence that any effect whatever has been produced by the votes of women in this country, whether the franchise granted them be full and unhampered or whether it be limited.
In the four States in which they are on a perfect equality with men in respect of the ballot the claim cannot be made that better government or less corrupt politics has resulted. For the most part, it is obvious that women voters are influenced by the men voters of their families, and that they do not do their own "thinking" any more independently in this matter than in other affairs of life. This is not intended as an indictment against woman voters. It is merely the statement of a patent and a significant fact. The logic of it is that what is needed in this country is a more careful restriction of the ballot, rather than a reckless extension of the franchise. It is undoubtedly true that many thousands of men exercise no more judgment in voting than do the women in those States where woman suffrage prevails. It is probably also true that the purchasable woman vote is proportionately as large as that of the man vote. There is a widespread impression that in Utah, Colorado, Idaho, and Wyoming a greater proportion of uneducated women vote than of the class of women in other positions indicate superior culture. But this is no sound argument against woman suffrage, seeing that the same rule holds good as to men voters, at least partially.
Undoubtedly the action of the Oklahoma constitutional convention is in harmony with a growing sentiment for a restriction of the ballot in the United States, and as such it is to be commended. The time may come when women will have the ballot placed in their hands in all parts of this country on terms of perfect equality with the men voters, but when that time does come there will be thrown around the ballot restrictions which will confine it to those persons only who are qualified to exercise intelligent judgment, guided by enlightened selfishness, in casting a ballot. Then will come better government and cleaner politics, which will be the results of woman suffrage, but the results of restricting the ballot.

A Richmond man was caught in a steel trap set by his wife in the pantry for burglars. There is a way to get even. Let him put a trap in his pants pocket wherein he carries his loose change.
"I am a poet in a still stream," warbles a Southern poetess. You ought to come in out of the wet, Maude.
In memoriam—Ridgway's, "young and so fair."
A very strange and unheard of thing happened in New York Saturday. One of the yellowed appeared without a picture of either Harry or Evelyn.
Why, those erstwhile California firecrackers have become so tame that it is as quiet likely they will be eating crackers right out of the President's hand before they get ready to go home!
"He still has the punch," says Mr. John Lawrence Sullivan and Mr. Roosevelt. He generally gets the decision, too.
Representative Lamar, of Florida, probably never expects to see his proposition to elect United States judges by direct vote of the people enacted into law, but riding astride of Judge Swayne's neck is still considered mighty fine politics down in the Land of Flowers.
"Has Congress gone crazy?" asks the Raleigh Times. No. Some of its acts are a little insanitary. That's all.
One Tennessee solon referred to a colleague a few days ago as being "as graceful as a goose on a mill pond." The complimented one hasn't decided yet whether he was getting a boost or a knock.
It must be real embarrassing to the King of Spain to have his entire cabinet resign every few weeks. What he needs is a versatile cabinet man like George B. Cortelyou. The King could turn the whole reigning business over to him and go fishing just as much as he liked.
The impenetrable silence surrounding the Hon. Benjamin Tillman and the Hon. Poon-Bah Raisoul is ominous.

What's this? Engineer Stevens threatening to resign from the head of the canal business? He lacks one hour, fifteen minutes and six ticks of having served his sentence. Let the law take its course!
In other words, Julian Hawthorne looks upon Mr. Roosevelt as a sort of Rough Rider.
There are rumors of revolution down Central America way, but as nothing appears concerning our old friend, Gen. Uribe-Urribe, of Honduras-Honduras, there is probably nothing in them.
Somehow, this "unwritten law" always seems to accompany a story that would also appear to much better advantage unwritten.
A Texas legislator has introduced a bill to regulate barbers. This will give the barbers a fresh topic upon which to dispute while the helpless customer's physiognomy.

The Houston Post calls the case against Bailey "an epidemic of rumorism." Sometimes even that leaves a man pretty badly crippled.
"B. Ryan Tillman; no wonder he talks!" remarks the Indianapolis Star. But he also gets elected.
The parlor jet has not so light, the gas stove has no flame, but when the man comes in they'll get there just the same.
—New York Sun.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE PITY PATROL.
She's one of the Pity Patrol!
Each morning she hurries to court.
O'er stories of stabbing, her handkerchief grabbing,
She turns on the tears with a snort.
She's one of the Pity Patrol,
With no time to spare to scrub,
For she's too unhappy about the sweet chap!
Who's hummered his ma with a club.
She's one of the Pity Patrol!
Her children she finds a sad tax.
She needs strength to bellow about the dear fellow
Who's murdered his wife with an ax.
She's one of the Pity Patrol!
Of all other aims she's bereft.
She's after the story that's startling and sordid,
She hasn't much time for a theft.
She's one of the Pity Patrol,
A martyr to snuff and a gush!
With each week a killing, no matter how willing,
She cannot keep up with the rush!

Superior Knowledge.
"Yans, I was in S.ain."
"And did you visit the Alhambra while there?"
"Aw, you're mixed, Miss Gladys. The Alhambra's in Lunnun, ye know."

An Expert.
"Can I take a joke?" exclaimed the press humorist. "Say, I can take a joke and revamp it so that it would hardly be recognized by the man who originated it."

Always Busy.
A country life is just the thing;
It beats the city hovel.
You push a mower in the spring;
In winter time you shovel.

The Huntress.
"Grace, what sort of a fellow is Mr. Grotz?"
"He's very shy, Maude."
"Shy or gun-shy?"

Wise Dad.
"Yes; my daughter is engaged to that young nincompoop."
"Why don't you object?"
"Because I don't want her to marry the dub."

Going Around.
"There are several penalties for racing motor cars through Rhode Island."
"Well, luckily, it takes only a few minutes to make the detour."

FACTS AND FANCIES.
From the Philadelphia Ledger.
Electrical.
The conductor had been discharged for knocking down fares.
"That makes me a nonconductor," he remarked, for he lacked seriousness of mind.

Out of the Setting.
The maid was a jewel—
Oh, day of regret!
She used oil for fuel,
Thus getting unmet.

Where Affection Balked.
"No," said the girl, firmly, "I won't elope. I'd sacrifice almost anything for you, but that is too much."
"Well," replied the man, his voice showing disappointment, "then, I suppose I'm stuck for the rest of a wedding; but a girl ought to be willing to do that much for her father."

Versed in Law.
"You were guilty of one matrimonial mistake. I shouldn't think you would marry again."
"Oh, but you know a verdict of guilty usually leads to a second trial!" replied the gay grass widow.

International Comity.
A coolie there was in Japan.
Who said, "There's no better man;
It's my duty to spank
The pestiferous Yank."
Just to show the fellow I can."

Explained.
"You state in one place that you were born in 1884?"
"Yes, sir."
"And in another that you were born in 1885?"
"Yes, sir."
"Isn't that inconsistent?"
"Oh, no," smiled the witness. "I was born in 1884, and just stayed born. Why, I'm born yet."

Lesson for Conductor.
From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.
A percheron size woman carrying a great many bundles prepared to alight from a Wade Park car at Euclid avenue and East Ninth street, yesterday. As she was stepping to the ground the car started up.
"Oh, wait, wait," she cried. "I've got off at the wrong place." The car slowed up and she climbed back on. "I got back to see if I could get you to wait until I got off before you start your car," she exclaimed the moment she was safely aboard. "If you'll wait now I'll get off again." And off she clambered again.

Child Labor Legislation.
From the Atlanta Georgian.
The South cannot afford to oppose a measure for the protection of the childhood of America. While in one industry the percentage of children employed is greater than in that of any other industry elsewhere, the number of these little child workers is greater in the North, there being more under sixteen in Pennsylvania than in the entire South. Why, then, should we act as though our toes were being stepped upon, as though the matter were a sectional one? It is a national evil and it needs a national cure.

The Executive Joker.
From the Philadelphia Ledger.
"Gov. Hughes is a great joker, isn't he?"
"What makes you think so?"
"Why, you remember his campaign promises?"
"Yes."
"Well, he meant 'em."

Defect of Omission.
From the Baltimore American.
An anti-tipping law for Washington, D. C., is in process of manufacture. It is very defective in that it does not prohibit giving tips on the races.

The Rate Per Cent.
From the Philadelphia Ledger.
"Smith takes more interest in his business than any one I know."
"What's his business?"
"He runs a pawnshop."

No Cause to Worry.
From the Portland Oregonian.
Representative Champ Clark makes half a dozen good suggestions for President Roosevelt's future. Everybody worries about it but Roosevelt.

Two-cent Fares.
From the Kansas City Star.
The average State legislature is determined to have 2-cent fare, regardless of whether it is fair or unfair.

WINTER IN GEORGIA.
Winter in Georgia—the frost on the shed.
But the cider is sweet and the apples are red;
The big fires light bright
On the chimneys at night.
Oh, we dance till the drowsy-eyed stars go to bed!
Winter in Georgia—the green's left the hill,
But the grape juice is sweet as it drips from the mill.
And your future—it lies
In your sweetheart's bright eyes.
And the squirrel is sly where the hick'ry nuts spill!
—Atlanta Constitution.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Cost of the Philippines.
Now that a resolution has been introduced in the Senate calling for detailed reports that will show approximately the amount the Philippines have cost us, it is thought probable that Mr. Hale may make a speech on that interesting subject and tell some things that will startle the country. It is known that the Senator from Maine keeps a desk label on the direct and indirect expenditures authorized by Congress on account of the Philippines, and that he would gladly welcome any practical suggestion looking to the alienation of the islands at the earliest convenient date. In a statement about a year ago, made in the course of a hearing before the Committee on the Philippines on Secretary Taft's tariff bill, Mr. Hale declared that the total value of our commerce with the islands did not equal the value of a good potato crop in a single county in Maine, while a complete exhibit of expenditures on the Philippine account would be starting. Senator Hale is quoted as saying that up to a year ago the Philippines had cost the United States \$90,000,000, or about \$100,000,000 a year. Mr. Hale is a member of the Committee on Appropriations, chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and a member of the Philippines Committee—three committee positions which afford him exceptionally good opportunities to keep track of the annual cost of the islands.

Another Silent Senator.
In substituting Maj. Frank O. Briggs for John F. Dryden, New Jersey will send another silent Senator to Congress. It is said that Maj. Briggs has never made a speech or written a public document of any kind. Nor has he had any legislative experience. For a long time New Jersey has been represented in the Senate by men who have not displayed forensic ability. Mr. Keen, who is now serving his second term, has never participated in Senate debates, although he wields no small influence on the Republican side. Mr. Dryden has delivered one speech during his service of five years, and this he read from manuscript. His advocacy of the federalization of insurance companies.

Noted Consult His Wife.
The Hon. Albert Douglass, who is to succeed the veteran Gen. Grosvenor in the next House, has been in Washington a good deal this winter to get his bearings before taking his post on the ship of state. Mr. Douglass is not weighed down with worldly goods, nor was he Washington-toned until made so a few days ago when he moved into the comfortable quarters of one of the fashionable hotels that houses many statesmen who could have continued to live in the National Capital quite comfortably even had their salary not been increased 50 per cent. Mr. Douglass was shown a choice suite in the hotel, consisting of a bedroom, parlor, and bathroom.

Like these very much," he said to the accommodating butler. "I would like to have another bedroom for the use of occasional visitors from home, but I guess I can hire another close by when necessary. How much will you charge me a month?"
"Only a thousand dollars for yourself and wife," complacently replied the landlady.

Gen. Grosvenor's successor gasped. He did not have been becoming in the line of a successor of so famous a statesman as Gen. Grosvenor. He tried to act just as complacently as the landlady. Summoning all the calmness and deliberation at his command, Mr. Douglass said:
"I'll write my wife all about the rooms and let her know beforehand what comforts we shall have when we come here to live. So, until I hear from her, you need not mark me for the suit. She may think from the price that your hotel is not the kind we ought to live in."

Pettigrew Redivivus.
Richard Franklin Pettigrew, long of leg and stopped like the crane, has been seen considerably of late in the chamber of his former triumphs and glories, the Senate. Since politics went away in South Dakota and public opinion there changed faster than he could keep up with it, Mr. Pettigrew has lived mostly in New York, where, it is said, he displays about as much sagacity in the stock market as any of the most seasoned bulls and bears, and has accumulated a pile of money by the shelter of the market for a few more comfortable than he was ever able to feel while serving his fickle public in the Senate. Mr. Pettigrew has not abandoned his citizenship or interest in South Dakota, and his friends in the Senate have intimated the belief that the Democrats will carry that State in the next election and send him back to Washington to succeed Mr. Kittredge.

J. Adam Will "Explode."
The correspondent of a Toledo paper was instructed yesterday to see Representative J. Adam Bede and learn upon what subject the Duluth statesman is to speak at the Lincoln celebration in Toledo next Tuesday. The orator from Duluth seemed irritated by being called away from his public duties to answer such a question.

Upon what subject am I going to speak at the Lincoln celebration in Toledo?" he repeated when questioned by the correspondent. "Why, tell your editor I'm not going to speak on any subject. I'm just going to explode into a brilliant pyrotechnic display. That's all."

Senatorial Poverty.
From the Savannah News.
There has been much discussion lately as to who is the poorest Senator in Washington. Notwithstanding his name, Senator Money, of Mississippi, claims the distinction of being poorer than any of his conferees. But that is merely a matter of dollars and cents. If there is a poorer Senator in Washington than Clark, of Montana, who has more money than he knows what to do with, we have yet to hear of him.

Mr. Tillman's Neckwear.
From the Richmond News-Leader.
Writing of Senator Tillman, a newspaper correspondent remarks on his preference for the turned-down collar. He judged that he were always a standing choler.

Two-cent Fares.
From the Kansas City Star.
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Winter in Georgia—the frost on the shed.
But the cider is sweet and the apples are red;
The big fires light bright
On the chimneys at night.
Oh, we dance till the drowsy-eyed stars go to bed!
Winter in Georgia—the green's left the hill,
But the grape juice is sweet as it drips from the mill.
And your future—it lies
In your sweetheart's bright eyes.
And the squirrel is sly where the hick'ry nuts spill!
—Atlanta Constitution.

SHIP SUBSIDY IN ACTION.

French Vessels Sail Without Freight.
Government Pays the Bill.
From the Pacific Commercial Advertiser.
The measure which a number of honest people are supporting through ignorance of its true purport is the proposed ship-subsidy bill. The extent to which the granting of a ship subsidy would aid in stifling legitimate trade is quite clearly illustrated in the shipping situation on the Pacific Coast at this time. Within the past three months a considerable number of French sailing vessels have arrived at Pacific Coast ports from various parts of the world. Some of them have come in ballast and some in cargo, but all are in demand for outward business, providing their owners would accept rates justified by natural conditions.
But the French vessels, except in a few cases, do not need to engage in the carrying trade. Their owners, being somewhat more successful than the American subsidy-hunters, have reached far enough into the French treasury to extract a sufficient amount of subsidy graft to enable their vessels to sail round the world in ballast and still pay a profit. As a result we find half a dozen of these vessels, with an aggregate carrying capacity in excess of 2,000 tons, sailing away from Portland, Tacoma, and San Francisco in ballast—not from any lack of freight offering, but because their withdrawal from the market strengthens the situation for those on which we must depend for tonnage.

GRILLING A WITNESS.
Cross-examination of an Expert as Exemplified by Jerome.
From the Western Plain Dealer.
The district attorney: "Do you consider yourself an expert or an authority?"
The witness, hesitating: "I am from Pittsburgh."
The district attorney: "I have no desire to prejudice the court against the witness. I ask that the answer be stricken out."
The judge: "It is so ordered."
The attorney: "Now, sit up and look pleasant. I want you to tell me what relation the pneumo-gastric nerve bears to the epiglottis."
The witness, squirming: "Relatively speaking?"
The attorney: "Either relatively or correlative?"
The witness: "That that page was torn out of the book I studied."
The attorney: "If a man was shot would you decide that he was the victim of a nervous attack?"
The witness, brightening up: "I would."
The attorney: "And if he wasn't shot, what then?"
The witness, floundering: "I would consider he was the victim—I should say, the result—of the nervousness of the man who missed him."
The attorney: "Are you familiar with chronic snatches?"
The witness, all at sea: "I—I have only observed them in the newspapers."
The attorney: "How would you treat a comatose polychrome?"
The witness, desperately: "I would first endeavor to reduce the inflammation, and then I would turn the case over to my assistant."
The attorney: "That will do."
The witness cheerfully agrees with him.

THE THIRD-TERM MOVEMENT.
It Seems to Be Nonpartisan and Outside Political Circles.
From the New York World.
The continuing agitation in favor of Roosevelt's nomination is unique in American history. In Washington's case the pressure to accept a third term came largely from Federalist politicians who saw in his re-election the only hope of keeping the party united. Grant's personal popularity was capitalized by a coalition of Republican politicians who expected to use him for their own ends. But with Mr. Roosevelt the third-term movement seems to have originated outside of professional political circles, and it is nonpartisan. Democrats as well as Republicans are clamoring for four years more of Roosevelt.

Unless Mr. Roosevelt's steadily increasing popularity begins to wane during the next year, the Republican national convention of 1908 is likely to present the first instance in American history where all the power and influence of a President of the United States would be required to prevent his own re-nomination.

The Old Man's Pipe.
From the Atlanta Constitution.
"Quaker weed, quaker life," sighed the Old Man. "I'll be eighty, if I live to see April, and I've got to give up the one comfort of my old age. Doctor says I must quit smokin'! Now, my pipe has been my consolation all these years of age and loneliness, and I'll come hard to part with it. And why should I? Before a friendly fire, on a night when the winter wind rumbles in the chimney, this old pipe brings dreams to me. I live it all over—the long life that seems so short, as the smoke curls upward. Old friends come in and take me by the hand; sweet faces smile, and one—the sweetest of them all—beams on me, and brightens all the gloom. Why, I—"
But just then a rosy-cheeked youngster came bounding in the room.
"Grandfather," he said, "will you lend me your pipe—to blow soap-bubbles?"
"You are a long life," said the Old Man, "he heard what the doctor said!"
He gave the boy a penny for a clay pipe; then he filled his own with fragrant tobacco—it took a long puff, and said:
"The doctors don't know everything. In my day they didn't have much need of doctors. I reckon I'll have to die young!"

Stung.
The Japanese usually are of such short stature that when Mr. Kunaji Oshima, superintendent general of police of the government of Formosa, appeared in the lobby of the Sherman hotel last evening, no guest of that hostelry could forbear gazing at him on account of his six feet of altitude.
"He is the tallest Jap I ever saw," was said repeatedly. Mr. Oshima proved as good humored as he was lofty, and in a little talk with a Herald reporter said:
"I came to the United States to find out how your police departments are conducted, but have been disappointed. I have no time for investigation. I have been in Formosa for the past eleven years. When I first went there the island was overrun with robbers, but we have about rid the country of them. The only difficulty now is with the fierce and savage mountain tribes of the interior. Their subjugation is no easy task. They live remote settlements, where no roads have ever been built, and where travel is scarcely operated. These wild men do not know what fear is, and will fight to the last ditch. They look on every stranger as an enemy, and for that reason the government will not allow any one to go into their territory without a written permit."

One of Nebraska's leading citizens, Mr. R. B. Schneider, of Fremont, is at the Raleigh. He is a member of the Republican national executive committee, and has probably come on for a conference with Mr. Cortelyou, the two being great friends.
"Don't ask me for any political story," said Mr. Schneider. "Honestly, I have no political talk in Nebraska, and am not worrying about the next candidate of the G. O. P. To tell you a secret, our people are too busy making money to think of anything else."

AT THE HOTELS.

Mr. J. A. Delfelder, of Lander, Wyo., is at the Riggs House, and he has before him a few days of unalloyed pleasure, for he is seeing the National Capital for the first time, an experience that has been his dream for years. It must not be imagined that Mr. Delfelder could not have reached Washington earlier, since there has been no time in the last ten years that he could not have had a check cashed in any bank of the West for money of magnitude. In cold earnest, it is worth this day not a peso less than \$500,000, which is not so much, reckoned by the Rockefeller standard, but which is a lot when one comes to think of the situation Mr. Delfelder was in when he first "hit" Wyoming, fourteen years ago. He had hoped to reach a point in Idaho on his migration from his old home in Kansas, but his money giving out, he had to stop at a place in Wyoming rejoicing in the name of "Burnt Hole," which metropolis consisted of one saloon and the railway station.
He didn't have the price of a breakfast, but soon encountered a sheep man who wanted to hire a herder. To him Delfelder hired, and the rest may be guessed. It wasn't long before he was hiring men to herd his sheep, and now he is owner of numerous flocks. Mr. Delfelder is not only a leader in business affairs and politics, but he enjoys also the distinction of being president of the Gray Bull Club, a social organization that has had a great history in Wyoming. It was through the efforts of this club that the outside world was made to know that in Big Horn County, surrounding the city of Meeteetse, scores upon scores of sturdy plainsmen, cattlepunners, and stockmasters wanted wives.
The deficiency in girls was all that ailed the country. The Gray Bull Club, aided by Wyoming's best newspaper, the Tribune, of Cheyenne, who is also at the Riggs, advertised to all the unmarried daughters of Eve throughout the nation that if they wanted husbands all they had to do was to migrate to Big Horn County, State of Wyoming. Mr. Walker told a Herald reporter last night that in the course of a month he got by actual count 1,742 letters from spinsters, representing every State and county in the Union, not to speak of a batch from Germany and several from foreign cities. Many of these were evidently written by women of refinement whose hearts had been set on matrimony, but who had never had an offer. The Boston postmark on the letters was most numerous. About 200 young ladies came in on person after a shower of correspondence with the Wyoming swains, and in nearly every case, Mr. Walker said, happy marriages resulted.
A last word about Mr. Delfelder: After arriving in Washington yesterday, and on his way to the hotel, he carried the imposing monolith designed to perpetuate the fame of George Washington. Turning to Mr. Walker, he said:
"George, this is a new kind on me. Back in my old Kansas country they always made the stand-pipes out of sheet iron, but in this neck of the woods they use stone; and that's the first one I ever saw that had little doors at the top."

"The average dinner guest may be pleasantly entertained, but it is not once in a lifetime that he gets such a treat as did the recipients of Senator Nathan B. Scott's hospitality Saturday evening," remarked Senator George Nixon, of Nevada, at the New Willard.
"Of course, the dinner itself was fine, but this was an intellectual feast I am talking about. Its purveyor was Senator Joe Blackburn. I do not think, although he spoke ex tempore, that a more delightful talk ever emanated from human lips. It was full of wisdom, philosophy, and humor, and it was said so eloquently that every ear was strained to catch each word."

"The speech was a masterly defense of our American civilization and of the public men of the country. It was without a trace of bitterness, and yet it showed up the ridiculousness of the extreme muck-raking and calumny of the day. If Mr. Blackburn could be got to give the same talk in a vaudeville before he quits forever the body he adorns, the whole country would be delighted."

The American Ambassador to Mexico, Hon. D. E. Thompson, is a guest of the New Willard. Mr. Thompson explained to a Herald reporter that he had not come home on any state business, but to attend to some private concerns in Nebraska. He will meet Mrs. Thompson in New York this week and they will sail for Cuba about Saturday, to be the guests of Gov. Max Baer for a week or ten days after returning to the City of Mexico.
"It is a fine country, the Mexican republic," said Ambassador Thompson, "and I have come, during my year's residence there, to like it greatly. The people are as hospitable and kind as any in the world, and the great variety of climates surpassed anywhere in the graces and refinements of life. I do not apprehend that the election of a successor to President Diaz will cause the least amount of political disturbance, and where things progressed far beyond the stage where revolutions are feasible. The City of Mexico is becoming a most beautiful place. The tide of improvement keeps at the flood. The great drawback of the capital heretofore has been the lack of a really modern hotel, but one is shortly to be built at a cost of \$1,000,000 that will be of the most modern architecture and appointments on a par with our finest hostleries."

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